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THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF LOTHINGLAND

ANNUAL REPORT

on the

HEALTH

of the

RURAL DISTRICT OF LOTHINGLAND
for the
year

1952

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
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by: ARTHUR C. GEE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Mr. Chairman, My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the health of your district for the year 1952.

Of the infectious diseases, measles has once again been the most prevalent. This epidemic disease has a habit of waxing and waning in a two yearly cycle and the year under review was one of its peak years with 257 recorded cases. In 1951 there were only 41 such cases, whilst in 1950 another peak was recorded at 137 cases. If this cycle is maintained, 1953 should be comparatively free from measles, another peak occurring in 1954.

Little comment is needed on the other infections, as the district was comparatively free from them. It is very pleasing to note that there were in fact only 10 cases of Whooping Cough, which usually shows a much higher prevalence.

The figures for Births and Deaths are much the same as usual. Once again, one must remind oneself that where small numbers are involved too much notice must not be taken of 'rates per 1,000'. This point is well illustrated by the figures shown in the 'Comparative Table for the Past Five Years' for the Infant Mortality Rate.

The birth rate has fallen slightly - a fact in keeping with the national trend. The death rate has stayed remarkably constant during the past few years, at a very satisfactorily low level.

I have set out the causes of death in greater detail this year, and it will be seen that diseases of the heart and circulation now account for a very high proportion of the deaths. Malignant disease falls a long way behind as a cause of death, whilst pneumonia - once one of the main causes of death - is hardly in the picture at all.

The attendance figures for the Infant Welfare Centres indicate that these centres are being used on much the same level as before.

As in 1951, no cases of food-poisoning were notified during the year.

Once again it gives me pleasure to acknowledge my indebtedness to the Clerk of the Council, the Sanitary Inspector and the other officials of the Council for their co-operation throughout the year.

General Statistics.

Area	44,653 acres.
Registrar-General's estimate of population (mid-1952).....	14,960
Number of inhabited houses as at 31st December 1952	4,963
Rateable Value as at 31st December 1952	£63,752

Vital Statistics.

LIVE BIRTHS	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	182	91	91
Illegitimate	12	4	8
	194	95	99

	Lothingland.	Camparative figure for England & Wales.
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population mid-1952	13.0	15.3
STILLBIRTHS Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births Total 7 Male 2 Female 5	35.0	22.6
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population.	11.0	11.3
DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE. All infants per 1,000 live births.	15.5	27.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live births.	15.5	27.6
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live births	---	---
Deaths from puerperal causes	---	

Causes of Death

	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis	-	3	3
Syphilitic disease	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm lung, bronchus	3	-	3
Maligant Neoplasm, breast	-	5	5
Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	6	7	13
Leukaemia	-	3	3
Diabetes	-	2	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	18	18	36
Coronary disease, angina	14	6	20
Hypertension with heart disease	3	4	7
Other heart disease	10	19	29
Other circulatory disease	5	5	10
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Bronchitis	3	2	5
Other disease of respiratory system	1	-	1
Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea	1	-	1
Nephritis & Nephrosis	1	3	4
Hyperplasia of prostrate	2	-	2
Other defined & ill-defined diseases	5	4	9
Motor Vehicle accidents	-	1	1
All other accidents	2	1	3
Suicide	-	1	1
	77	87	164

Comparative Table for the Past Five Years

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Population	14,390	14,550	14,400	15,090	14,960
Births	263	258	210	219	194
Birth Rate per 1,000	17.3	18.0	14.9	14.4	13.0
Deaths	167	187	165	170	164
Death Rate per 1,000	11.6	12.4	11.4	11.3	11.0
Infant Deaths	7	6	7	10	3
Infant Mortality Rate	26.6	23.0	33.3	45.6	15.5

Infectious Diseases

The following table shows the distribution of the various Infectious Diseases notified throughout the year.

PARISH	Measles	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Scarlet Fever	Jaundice	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia	Poliomyelitis
Burgh Castle	4							
Bradwell	13	4	1		1			
Hopton	5			1	1			
Somerleyton	4						1	
Blundeston	1	2	1					
Corton	8			1				
Oulton	2							
Carlton Colville	33		1		1			
Gisleham	6		1					
Henstead	1							
Kessingland	33		1		1	1		
Wrentham	46							
Benacre	8							
Frostenden	28							
Covehithe	6							
Wangford	7							
Reydon	44	4	2	1				1
Lound	2							
Brcwston	1							
Barnby	2							
South Cove	2							
Rushmere	1							
1952	257	10	7	3	4	1	1	1
1951	41	83	13	8	4	1	1	-
1950	137	32	5	14	31	2	2	-

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The following table shows the number of children, in their respective age groups, who received immunisation against Diphtheria during the year.

Unfortunately, owing to the Registrar-General giving up supplying figures relating to the estimated pre-school and school population, it is not possible for me to give percentage figures as to the numbers immunised :-

Children Immunised against Diphtheria set out in age groups:

Under 1 yr.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10-15.	Total.
69	66	19	2	3	3	9	1	1	1	2	176

Booster Doses given : 7.

	Tuberculosis				
	MALES		FEMALES		TOTAL
	Pulm.	N. Pulm.	Pulm.	N. Pulm.	
Number of cases on Register at beginning of year.	30	20	15	11	76
Number of cases added to Register during year.	7	-	8	1	16
Number removed from Register during year.	4	-	4	-	8
Number of cases on Register at end of year.	33	20	19	12	84

Infant Welfare Centres.

The table below shows the attendances at the various Infant Welfare Centres for the year. Figures for 1951 are shown in brackets :

	Carlton Colville	Kessingland	Wrentham	Somerleyton, Belton & District
No. of Sessions	24 (22)	12 (16)	26 (23)	55 (55)
No. of children in attendance at end of year.	28 (39)	40 (37)	71 (92)	200 (189)
No. of children who first attended during year:				
(a) Under 1 year	11 (12)	24 (11)	46 (11)	98 (54)
(b) 1 - 5 years	17 (1)	- (2)	25 (-)	102 (5)
Total attendances:				
(a) Under 1 year:	92 (83)	96 (126)	220 (260)	422 (381)
(b) 1 - 5 years:	207 (247)	120 (153)	242 (297)	892 (868)

Water Supply.

The piped supply at Kessingland has been analysed once a quarter throughout the year and the reports have been consistently satisfactory.

The supply for Bradwell is drawn from Yarmouth and the other districts are supplied by Lowestoft and Southwold Water Companies. In these cases, testing is carried out by the supplying authorities and good analytical reports have been obtained throughout the year.

Food Poisoning.

Once again I am pleased to report that NO cases of food poisoning were notified throughout the year.

I am,

My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR C. GEE

Medical Officer.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1952.

Mr. Chairman, My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present a report upon the work of my department for the year 1952.

Housing.

66 Houses were inspected for defects and overcrowding and 22 informal notices were served, 20 being complied with. 4 Statutory Notices were issued and all were complied with.

15 Houses were erected by private enterprise.

Control of Building Licences - Regulation 56A.

Type of Licence.	Number.	Value.
Housing Repairs	27	£7,448.
Building of Houses by private enterprise.	44	
For re-erection of houses partly destroyed by fire.	3	£6,012.
Conversion of two houses into one.	1	£ 350.

Building Bye-laws & Town Planning.

Plans were submitted and approved as follows :-

Permanent Houses	31
Temporary Dwellings	2
Garages	14
Agricultural Buildings	12
Additions & Alterations	18
Additions to Camps	4
Miscellaneous	18

Ice-Cream.

There were 38 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream, an increase of 9 on the previous year. It is gratifying to record that most of the ice-cream sold in the area is prepacked.

Bakehouses, Food Shops & Dairies.

50 Inspections were made and verbal notices given to limewash where necessary.

Factories & Workshops.

30 Inspections were made and no notices were issued.

Water Supplies.

Samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Norwich and the bacteriological reports were as follows :-

Samples satisfactory - 6
Samples unsatisfactory- 7

6 Wells were cleaned out and repaired.

The Kessingland undertaking provided satisfactory service throughout the year. A supplementary supply was obtained from the Nordals well and there was no shortage of water. Quarterly chemical and bacteriological tests by the Public Analyst showed the water to be very satisfactory and suitable for a domestic supply.

Biological Examination of Milk, 1952.

(a) Number of samples examined 38
(b) Number found to contain tubercle bacilli ... 1
(c) Number found to contain brucella organisms ... 3

Meat Inspection.

Slaughtering was carried out at the Benacre Slaughterhouse throughout the year at irregular hours and often 6 days per week including Sunday.

No. of Animals Inspected.	Cattle 1349	Calves 897	Sheep 2370	Pigs 1705
Tuberculosis Only.				
Number of whole carcases and offal condemned.	7	-	-	1
Number of carcases of which some part was condemned.	208	-	-	85
Percentage of carcases affected with tuberculosis	15.1			5%
Diseases other than T.B.				
Number of whole carcases and offal condemned.	1	-	1	7
Number of carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	156		100	77
Percentage of carcases with diseases othen than T.B.	11.05		.04	4.9

The total amount of meat condemned during the year amounted to 14,179 lbs, 80% of which was tubercular.

Sewage Disposal.

A sewerage scheme for the most populated part of the parish of Bradwell came into operation during the year.

The number of cesspools in the area increased and the two emptier machines were kept very busy.

Collection of House Refuse.

Two vehicles were employed in this service. Complaints were few and the work was generally satisfactory.

Rodent Control.

This service was considerably curtailed owing to the illness of the rodent officer. A new officer has since been engaged.

I am, My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. O. ADCOCK

Sanitary Inspector.